



MIKE BONIN

**City of Los Angeles
Councilmember, Eleventh District**

October 27, 2015

The Honorable Curren Price, Jr., Chair
The Honorable Gilbert Cedillo
The Honorable Marqueece Harris-Dawson
The Honorable Paul Krekorian
The Honorable Nury Martinez

Re: Sidewalk Vending, Council File No. 13-1493

Dear Chairman Price:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on item #1 before the Economic Development Committee today, a proposed framework for sidewalk vending in the City of Los Angeles.

I support sidewalk vending, and fully appreciate its potential to enliven neighborhoods, create jobs, promote economic activity and more. I am eager to see the City approve a program to legalize and properly regulate sidewalk vending. I do not, however, support a blanket citywide policy, and recommend instead that we create the option for supportive neighborhoods to create **special sidewalk vending districts**.

As the second largest city in the U.S., Los Angeles is home to more than a hundred distinct and amazing neighborhoods. Each diverse neighborhood has its own set of existing planning conditions and quality of life aspirations, and I believe we should allow each neighborhood to determine whether it would like to establish a special district model to allow sidewalk vending.

This process for establishing sidewalk vending in Los Angeles should be community-driven, not City-driven. The question of whether to allow sidewalk vending in a certain area requires a careful balancing of the myriad interests of vendors, residents, brick-and-mortar business, farmers' markets, and more. That would be done most successfully at the neighborhood or community level. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to a thorough discussion in City Council.

Regards,

MIKE BONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

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